

Beckingham Parish Council

Draft Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting Wednesday 27th March 2019

Present: Cllrs L Tatton as Chair (LT), A Brewer (AB), P Wells (PW), S Toomer (ST)
Terry Brown/Parish Clerk
District Cllr Sue Howe
County Cllr Marianne Overton
Two parishioners

Minute	Action
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19/029 Public Time

A parishioner voiced concern at the effect of tree growth on her property. Councillors agreed that it was a matter for LCC but asked that they be kept informed of any progress.

The parishioner asked what action the Parish Council was taking with regard to The Great British Spring Clean initiative (22/3/19 to 23/4/19). She asked that the Parish Council request that the Beckingham Range authorities cooperate to improve that area of the village. The Clerk is to write.

Cllrs Overton and Howe offered advice on how to dispose of the collected rubbish.

Also, the parishioner questioned the current policy on the use of the Play Field for dog walkers. Councillors agreed that it would be a useful topic for review and discussion at the Annual Parish Meeting (29th May 2019).

LT reported that the Parish Council would be fully supportive of the proposed Conservation Area proposal.

19/030 Chairman's Announcements

LT commented on the excellent response from NKDC dealing with recent fly-tipping and Cllr Sue Howe promised to pass on the thanks to the NKDC department concerned.

19/031 Apologies for absence

District Cllr Pat Woodman

19/032 Police Time

PCSO Sarah Lingard reported by email it is worth residents being aware of suspicious activity (especially around the church) in relation to lead thefts. There has also been a recent daytime/evening burglary at a property on Mill Gate in Brant Broughton – offenders entered via a rear door. So, it is well worth residents ensuring side gates are locked to prevent access to the rear of their properties

19/033 District and County Councillor Time

Cllr Marianne Overton reported on recent developments at County level on Highway/pothole issues where the new plan to take longer to repair deep potholes from 28 days to 3 months will invariably increase the risk of accident.

She expressed concern at the continuing withdrawal of local GP facilities such as at Skellingthorpe with the consequent increase in travel time for patients.

Also, she commented on the excellent progress made on tackling litter and associated green issues at both local and county level.

Cllr Sue Howe reported:

"North Kesteven has a £200m investment in the future of the District, including housing, employment land, workshop space, improved leisure facilities and vital infrastructure, alongside a dedicated web-site for business support. www.businessnk.co.uk. It has also announced development of a £40m Business Park near Sleaford, which will create 600 jobs and join over 100 council-built units throughout the District. Commitment to boosting businesses means the District has some of the best rates of job creation and business start-ups in the UK, amongst the lowest unemployment.

VoterID will be trialled at the District election in May 2019 and will be supported by an extensive advertising campaign. It will also feature in NewsNK, currently being delivered to all households in North Kesteven.

CycleNK has a collection of cycle routes to be used throughout North Kesteven. The GoExplore app, Bassingham to Witham St Hughs is available to download.

For producers of handmade goods, the District has launched a pop-up stand in Navigation House, Sleaford for those who make items for sale locally and where a shop unit would be either too large to fill or too costly to manage.

Garden Waste collection from April 2019 can be renewed. The price remains £30 for the first bin/£12 additional bin.

The 2019 NK Community Champions' Awards have been launched and comprises of ten categories intended to attract a broad range of nominations, showcasing the vast range of community endeavour within North Kesteven. A two-week Walking Festival is arranged 13-27.07.19 at Hill Holt Wood: walkingfestival@hillholtwood.co.uk. Tel: 01636 392836.

Council Tax bills are in the process of being delivered, detailing charges made by various authorities for service provision in the year ahead. Most homes are charged at Bands A-C, equating to an overall increase of £60/£80 (up to 3.1%). The bill can also be used as one of the forms of Voter ID required to vote at the District election on 2.05.19.

North Kesteven welcomes the opportunity to future-shape the NHS's plans for Lincolnshire through public engagement, expressing shared discussion to improve health services and address changes through partnership conversation. "Healthy Conversation 2019" will run into the autumn across the county with public, representative, partners and staff inclusion. www.lincolnshire.nhs.uk/healthy-conversation

19/034 Members' Declarations of Interest.

None

19/035 Approval of the minutes of the meeting 20th February 2019.

The minutes were approved unanimously and then signed by LT.

19/036 Matters outstanding from previous meetings:

/1 to receive an update on the KNOT payment

Payment has now been received.

/2 to discuss a late received Valuation Office invoice

Contact has now been made with the relevant and correct HMRC department and the matter is in progress.

/3 to receive an update on 2019-20 grass cutting arrangements
Councillors approved the received quote for the additional works.

/4 to review the entry for CPRE Lincolnshire Best Kept Village Competition 2019
Councillors agreed that this should proceed and would produce valuable advice on how the village environment might be further improved.

Action Clerk

/5 to review the "Conservation Area" proposal
LT reported on the positive response to the proposal; 30 villagers had attended the open meeting. The main point of disagreement at present centred on the proposed boundaries. The Council noted that it did not include Peartree Cottage, the Poor Gardens and the Black Swan and the Clerk is to write to request their inclusion.

Action Clerk

19/037 Correspondence

Emails: Noted

19/038 Planning

Application 19/0146/LDEXI Orchard Park Poplar Meadow Sleaford Road Beckingham

No comment.

19/039 Committees

Village Hall

LT reported on the preliminary annual VH accounts which showed a healthy and pleasing position

Play Park

PW reported no issues.

Village fete:

ST reported on progress and that 11 gardens had now been entered.

19/040 Matters for Discussion

/1 to consider 2019/20 Funding opportunities.
The Clerk is follow-up on funding opportunities with Fund NK and Calor.

Action Clerk

/2 to confirm authorisation of the Parish Agreement for Highway Verge Cutting 2019/20: Beckingham Parish Council and to consider any extra footpath maintenance.
The LCC Highway Verge Cutting contract was approved. Extra footpath maintenance was considered inappropriate because of the present physical state of the footpaths.

/3 to consider a grant towards grass maintenance at All Saints Church
The Council agreed a grant of £300 to be issued at the next meeting.

/4 to discuss the Annual Inspection Report – Play Park
Councillors noted the absence of any risks in the report and agreed that discussion at the forthcoming APM might encourage new ideas to promote a better use of the facility.

/5 to discuss the June 2019 Bugle

It was agreed that an 8 page edition should be produced.

/6 to discuss the 2019 Annual Parish Meeting (May 29th 2019) arrangements

LT reviewed the arrangements and it was agreed that items 19/036/4, 19/036/5 and the use of the Play Park should feature in the discussions.

/7 to review internal financial controls

The Clerk's advice on procedure was noted.

/8 to accept quotes for VH works

Quotes were accepted for carpeting and furniture. The Clerk is to issue the required purchase orders.

Action Clerk

19/041 Finance

The meeting confirmed the reported bank balances at 26/2/2019.

19/042 Date of next meeting

Wednesday 8th May 2019 Annual Meeting of the Parish Council

The meeting closed at 9.15pm

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